

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	116165
Inspection date	02/03/2009
Inspector	Christine Bonnett
Type of setting	Childminder

Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration whichever is the later, which require Ofsted or the provider to take action in Annex C.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

Description of the childminding

The childminder was registered in 1990. She lives with her husband and three adult children in Brentford, in the London Borough of Hounslow. The ground floor of the house is mainly used for childminding as it includes a cloakroom. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children under eight years at any one time, of whom no more than three may be in the early years age range. She is currently minding three children in this age group. This provision is registered by Ofsted on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. The family have a pet rabbit.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good. Children are looked after with warmth and kindness in a clean and safe home. The childminder promotes inclusive practice as she knows the individual needs of each child well, and works closely with parents to ensure the care given is consistent and appropriate. The childminder also has the capacity to evaluate her work to identify areas to develop to enhance her strengths.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- continue to develop observation, assessment and planning skills to provide a rich and varied environment to further support children's learning and development.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Children's welfare is important to the childminder. She takes steps to identify and minimise any potential hazards in her home, and helps children learn how to cross roads safely on outings. In addition, the childminder has a good knowledge of child protection matters, including the procedure to follow to report concerns, to ensure their well-being is safeguarded.

The childminder understands the importance of evaluating her practice and developing her skills. One area she is working towards is learning about phonics. She aims to introduce a suitable programme to promote children's communication, language and literacy. Furthermore, by attending an Early Years Foundation Stage workshop, she has increased her knowledge and understanding of the needs of

children aged under three, which was a recommendation made at the last inspection.

The childminder establishes effective partnerships with parents to ensure the individual needs of their children are known and respected. She also seeks parent's views through questionnaires to ensure that they are confident and happy with the service she provides.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are relaxed and settled in the care of the childminder. They engage in a variety of play activities to support their all-round development. A range of play equipment is available for them to access as they choose to promote their independence. Adult led activities, such as collage and cooking, are also included to provide fun and good learning experiences.

Although the childminder has a good understanding of the six areas of learning, her observation, assessment and planning skills are in their infancy. Identifying each child's stage of development, and planning the next step in their learning journey needs to be developed to ensure each child makes appropriate progress within a rich learning environment. However, the childminder has established effective links with the school to share relevant information with them for continuity and coherence in the children's learning.

Children's enjoyment of books is well promoted. They enjoy snuggling up to the childminder to hear a well-loved story, such as *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, and show immense pleasure as they anticipate what happens next. Physical development is also fostered as children play in the back garden, or scramble over apparatus at Wacky Warehouse. Children also learn about the natural world as they collect leaves in Redlees park, or stroke snakes at the zoo. Children also have access to resources that reflect diversity within society to enable them to learn about and respect wider society.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Grade 1 is Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Grade 2 is Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Grade 3 is Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Grade 4 is Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

Overall effectiveness

How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	2
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	2

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	2
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	2
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	2
How well are children safeguarded?	2

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	2
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	2
How well are children helped to stay safe?	2
How well are children helped to be healthy?	2
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	2
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	2
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	2

Any complaints about the inspection or report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk

Annex B: the Childcare Register

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are:	Met
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The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:	Met
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Annex C: complaint/s made to Ofsted

This section of the report includes details of any complaint/s made to Ofsted when:

- we took action for the provider to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- we asked the provider to take action in order to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- the provider had already taken any necessary action to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register.

We will not report on any complaint where the provider met the requirements of the Early Years Register or did not require any action by Ofsted or the registered provider.

Detail of the complaint/s

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.